

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides an overview of the study, including its background, research questions, and objectives. It also explains the scope of the research and its significance for lecturers, students, and future researchers. Additionally, key terms related to the study are defined to establish a clear understanding of the topic.

1.1 Background of the Research

As students who are involved in the field of language, they were prepared to become future language experts. At Universitas Jambi, the English Education study program offers several specializations, including language services, non-formal education, and educational technology. These specializations are designed to meet the demands of the job market, which increasingly requires effective language and communication skills in a global context. However, in this study, the author focused on the language services specialization, which is highly relevant to the needs of the current industry, particularly in interpretation and translation.

According to Law Insider (2024), language services encompass a range of services used and/or required to facilitate communication and enhance understanding among speakers of different languages, including (but not limited to) interpretation and translation services. Siregar et al. (2023) stated that this process introduces various perspectives to nations, which drives modernization and intellectual advancement. These services have become even more important in the era of globalization, where human and information mobility across national borders is increasingly prevalent.

The language services specialization at Universitas Jambi offers a series of courses designed to equip students with the necessary skills in this field. Courses such as Introduction to Language Services, Translation and Interpretation, and Creative Writing provide students with a strong theoretical and practical foundation. Additionally, final projecta such as the Project in Language Services are designed to provide practical experience relevant to the job market, allowing students to apply the knowledge they have gained in real-world contexts.

The key activity within this specialization is the translation project, which is a task in the Project in Language Services course. This project was required of students of the English Education study program who specialize in language services 2024. The goal of this project was to provide real entrepreneurial experience in the field of translation, where students not only translated texts but also faced challenges often encountered by professionals in the field, such as linguistic, cultural, and technical challenges involving a technology known as localization (Sdobnikov, 2019).

However, in its implementation, there are several things that students must pay attention to. One important aspect is how students handle challenges while carrying out the project. Previous research shows that students often face difficulties in time management and uncertainty in project management, requiring them to find solutions to overcome those issues (Hussein, 2021). In this context, it is crucial to further explore the specific challenges faced by students and the strategies they employ to overcome those challenges. The main question addressed in this study was: What challenges did students face when doing the translation project, and how did they overcome them?. By investigating those challenges, the

research results were expected to provide valuable insights for the development of curriculum and learning strategies in the future, as well as help students prepare for the demands of the actual job market.

1.2 Research Questions

This study focuses on discovering students' challenges and strategies when doing translation projects. Based on the background of the study, the researcher formulates research questions as follows:

1. What are some challenges students face when doing translation projects?
2. How do they deal with those challenges?

1.3 Purposes of the Research

Based on the research question above, this research aims to discover some of the challenges students face when working on translation projects and how they overcome those challenges.

1.4 Limitation of the Research

This research is limited to assessing challenges and strategies faced by students from the English Language Education Study Program at Universitas Jambi. The research participants are those who have completed the translation project as part of Project in Language Services course in the academic year 2023-2024. This focus ensures that research captures the experiences and perspectives of students who are directly involved in the translation task. However, this limitation also

makes research findings less generalizable for other academic year or study programs.

In addition, data collection was carried out through in-depth interviews with 3 groups of participants. While this method provides rich and detailed insights, the results can be influenced by the subjectivity of the participants in conveying their experiences. Other factors, such as the dynamics of the relationship between the researcher and the participants, can also affect the depth of the data obtained. Further research may consider a larger number of participants or additional methods, such as direct observation, to provide a more holistic view.

1.5 Significance of the Research

1.5.1 For English Lecturers

This research is expected to provide a clear picture of the potential challenges faced by students working on translation projects. By understanding these challenges, English lecturers can better anticipate students' needs and design more effective teaching strategies. Furthermore, the findings from this study can serve as a valuable reference for lecturers in developing curriculum and teaching materials that are specifically tailored to address these challenges. Incorporating such insights into the teaching process not only improves the quality of education but also helps students become more prepared for real-world translation tasks. In the long run, this research can contribute to creating a more supportive learning

environment that fosters both skill development and problem-solving abilities among students.

1.5.2 For Students

This research is expected to give an overview of the potential challenges that students may face when working on translation projects. By identifying these challenges, students can be better equipped with strategies to overcome them, as mentioned in this study. This knowledge is essential for students to enhance their problem-solving abilities and develop their skills effectively. In addition, the insights gained can encourage students to proactively prepare themselves for similar challenges in future academic and professional settings. By understanding the importance of these strategies, students can not only complete their projects successfully but also build confidence in their translation skills. Ultimately, the findings of this study aim to support students in navigating both academic demands and the expectations of the professional world.

1.5.3 For Future Researchers

This research is expected to serve as a relevant reference for future researchers who intend to explore challenges and strategies in translation. It offers initial insights into the issues faced by students and their strategies to overcoming them. Future studies can expand this research by involving broader contexts or different methodologies. This will help enrich the

existing knowledge and contribute to the development of translation studies or project works.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

1.6.1 Challenges

Challenges in this study refer to the difficulties encountered by students during the translation project. These challenges are not limited to the act of translating itself but include the entire process of the project, from start to finish. They encompass linguistic challenges, cultural challenges, technological challenges, and managerial challenges. The term highlights the broad range of issues students face, covering aspects such as language accuracy, cultural context understanding, technological tool usage, and effective project management.

1.6.2 Strategies

Strategies in this study refer to the methods or approaches used by students to overcome the challenges encountered during the translation project. These strategies encompass linguistic, cultural, technological, and managerial aspects. The term highlights how students actively address issues from various perspectives, including word choice, cultural context comprehension, the use of technological tools, and time and task management. Thus, these strategies reflect the students' ability to

implement relevant and effective solutions based on the challenges they face.

1.6.3 Translation Project

A translation project refers to a project that translates English into Indonesian or vice versa. This project goes through various steps, starting from pricing, poster design, marketing, then communicating with the client, and so on. This translation project was done over several weeks by third-year English education students to complete a PjBL (Project-Based Learning) assignment for a course.